

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 011442

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WHITE HOUSE PLEASE PASS SAM 86970

HEREWITH FULL TEXT BALTOSUN LEAD EDITORIAL FRIDAY

JANUARY 18 HEADED "AT KILOMETER 101".

THE SIGNING TODAY OF AN AGREEMENT TO SEPARATE THEIR FORCES
BY THE CHIEFS OF STAFF OF ISRAEL AND EGYPT WILL INDEED, AS
PRESIDENT NIXON SAID, BE WELCOME TO PEOPLE ALL OVER THE
WORLD. THEY WILL HOPE BUT WAIT A WHILE LONGER TO FEEL
ASSURED, THAT MR. NIXON WAS ALSO CORRECT IN CALLING IT
THE "FIRST SIGNIFICANT STEP TOWARD A PERMANENT PEACE IN THE
MIDDLE EAST" IN A QUARTER CENTURY OF WAR AND UNEASY TRUCE.
THIS DEVELOPMENT CONVERTS THE CEASEFIRE THAT WAS JUST
BARELY A CEASEFIRE INTO A TRUE ONE, WITH MOMENTUM TATHERING
TOWARD AN AGREEMENT ON THE POLITICAL QUESTIONS THAT ARE
CAUSES OF WAR. THE BEST THING THAT COULD HAPPEN NEXT
WOULD BE THE ACHIEVEMENT OF A SIMILAR DISENGAGEMENT ON THE GOLAN

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PAGE 02 STATE 011442

FRONT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND SYRIA, BEFORE SYRIA CAN BE MADE

THE FOCAL POINT FOR A WRECKING EFFORT BY GHOSE ARAB FORCES
DEDICATED TO REIGNITING THE WAR.

THE SIGNING TODAY IS A GREAT TRIBUTE TO THE SKILLS AND
DETERMINATION OF SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER. HIS
STRENUOUS COMMUTING BETWEEN ASWAN AND JERUSALEM, AND THE
TRUST HE WON FROM BOTH SIDES AS AN HONEST BROKER WERE
DIPLOMACY OF THE HIGHEST CALIBER. BUT IN THE LONG RUN,
THIS METHOD WILL NOT DO FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF PEACE.
THE BELLIGERENT PARTIES MUST WORK THEIR PROBLEMS OUT
TOGETHER. IT IS NOT ACCEPTABLE FOR EVERY PROPOSAL AND
EVERY CLARIFICATION TO BE HAND-CARRIED BY THE AMERICAN
SECRETARY OF STATE, PARTLY BECAUSE HE WILL HAVE TOO MANY
OTHER ESSENTIAL THINGS TO DO, AND PARTLY BECAUSE THE VERY
NATURE OF AN ACHIEVEMENT OF PEACE REQUIRES A DIRECTNESS
THAT INTERMEDIARIES CANNOT IN THE END BRING.

THE AGREEMENT ITSELF IS MORE THAN A MINIMAL DISENGAGEMENT;
IT REPRESENTS A START INTO THE POLITICAL QUESTIONS. IT
CAME AFTER AN ISRAELI ELECTION DISPLAYED GROWING ISRAELI
PUBLIC FEARS OF CONCESSIONS WITHOUT SECURITY, AND IN THAT
RESPECT REQUIRED COURAGE FROM THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT.
IT CAME AFTER THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT WORRIED ALOUD ABOUT
FIGHTING AGAIN IF NO AGREEMENT WAS REACHED. THERE HAVE
BEEN FALSE STARTS BEFORE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AND EVERY
EFFORT MUST BE MADE, AS PRESIDENT NIXON FOR HIS PART
PROMISED TO MAKE THIS A VERY REAL START. END TEXT. RUSH

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